Center for the Arts at USM

Request for Authorization: Schematic design and related services
A Long-held Aspiration

A new Center for the Arts at USM will match the caliber of our students and the excellence of our programs – an aspiration over 30 years in the making, going back to the Cambridge Study of 1984.

Setting the Stage for Greatness Center for the Arts at USM
Project Priorities

• Build an iconic, signature building on USM’s Portland campus
• Create a showcase for USM talent, and bring in the wider arts & cultural community
• Achieve sustainability, both in terms of energy efficiency and revenue generation
• Meet the programming needs of Music, Theatre and Fine Arts, for USM and the wider community
Programming Components

The new facility is proposed to include:

- 1,000 seat, acoustically superior concert hall
- Recital hall with 250 seats
- Black box theatre accommodating 250
- Art gallery
- USM Club gathering room and public spaces
- Rehearsal room, storage for sets, costumes, props & instruments
- Practice/studio rooms, dressing rooms, green room & production offices
- Lobby area and café
Section Study @ Performance Space
Location & Community Impact

The Portland campus location is at the heart of the arts & cultural community, exposing USM talent to larger audiences.

  • Specific location will be determined as part of the Master Planning process

The project represents an increase in gross square footage at USM, but would generate revenue to be self-sustaining.

  • There is already significant interest expressed by local arts & cultural organizations
Estimated Project Costs

Building Construction  $38.5 million
Other Project Costs $ 9.6 million
Parking Garage Extension $ 5.9 million

Total Building Costs $54 million
Operational Reserves $ 5.5 million

Total Estimated Costs $59.5-69 million
Funding for the Center for the Arts

The cost of the project will be largely funded by philanthropy.

The USM Foundation is conducting the Campaign for the Center for the Arts.

- Funds raised will support construction of the new building as well as potential expansion of the parking garage and operational reserves.